

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Hickok *et.al* Art Unit : 1641  
Serial No. : 10/774,144 Examiner : Grun, James L.  
Filed : February 6, 2004 Cust. No. : 20985  
Conf. No. : 8562  
Title : **SCREENING AND TREATMENT METHODS FOR PREVENTION OF  
PRETERM DELIVERY**

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN CONNECTION WITH  
A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Dear Sir:

This preliminary amendment, which is responsive to the Final Office Action, mailed April 06, 2007, is filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-captioned application. Entry of the following amendments and consideration of the following remarks are respectfully requested. An Information Disclosure Statement accompanies this preliminary amendment and RCE.

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.

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Stephanie Seidman